

Baker Sees Immense Task of American Army in France Being Done Efficiently

PERSHING HAS BUILT PORTS TO CARE FOR EVERY NEED

WITH SECRETARY BAKER IN FRANCE, March 18.—Secretary Baker's visit to France offers inspiration to every officer and man in the American forces, General Pershing declared tonight.

"I have long urged Secretary Baker to come to France," said Pershing. "Now that he is here we are delighted. He means to master the details of our chief, who carries all the military effort at home and abroad in his mind, he is seeing what we are doing on this side, and his visit is a personal inspiration to every officer and man."

Sum Up Results.
Secretary Baker summed up the results of his inspection to date when he said:

"These days have been worth my trip across the Atlantic in the information and encouragement they have given me. I have seen two ports, the only existing depots of the regular engineer command, bringing war plant we are constructing, but I have seen enough to convince me we now have an organization which will meet the problem with an increasing supply of materials and facilities to couple up the ports of embarkation in the United States with American ports of debarkation in France."

"I find written reports have given me an inadequate idea of the difficulties which the enemy said we couldn't overcome, but which we are overcoming."

Transit French Resources.
"After her long, stout hearted defense, France could spare us little material or labor for our purposes except by ill-advised diversions from her own needs."

"She could offer land upon which to raise our structure and the right of way for our communication lines. She should like to pay tribute to the men who began last summer to bring into being blue prints of this great conception which has now advanced enough to yield a conviction of success to any observer. I should like to pay tribute to all our engineers and experts from civil life in all branches who have continued to arrive and serve with officers in the regular engineer command, increasing the number of army workers, who are all doing their part."

Are Making Record.
"They have come from a pioneering people, and have brought their pioneering energy here. They have turned marshes into docks facing waterways which they will dredge. They have built spur tracks, built warehouses, and the necessary supplementary plant from which we will dispatch along the line of communication food, clothing, guns, and ammunition and all the enormous mass of complicated material which the resources of the United States can supply transportation. The ships are being built."

GERMANS TAKE LONG CHANCES IN SEEKING TO TEST U. S. STRENGTH

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, March 18.—Desperate chances are being taken by the Germans to gather important information as to American positions and strength through a series of raids on American trenches.

In a series of raids during the past few days terrific artillery action has been in progress. Two charges from across No Man's Land have been released, and only a few of the enemy reached American trenches. The number of casualties is not made public.

The enemy is now seeking to regain position in both the Toul and Lunenburg sectors by connecting shell holes. More than 240 shells, which make craters twenty feet deep and thirty feet in diameter have been hurled against the Toul sector.

Gas shells are also being used against the enemy, but the American troops have learned how to combat them through the heavy use of the gas mask.

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SOLDIERS OCCUPY THE SECTORS ON WEST BATTLE LINE

(Continued from First Page.)
massed, the chances are that the concentration of the lines of communication will become so great as to make it impossible to maintain the flexibility of maneuver which is so essential. "Our own forces in France have been constantly in action."

"Our troops are now in the trenches at five different points. This week we undertook our first assault against German positions unaided by any allied contingent."

"At dawn on March 11, after a preliminary bombardment lasting three-quarters of an hour, we drove a highly successful raid against a German trench segment."

In Hand-to-Hand Fight.
"Our men penetrated the German line to a depth of 300 yards. The enemy was driven off after a hand-to-hand fight, whereupon our contingent returned to our lines."

"At three places in Lorraine American troops, acting in co-operation with small French detachments, raised German trenches. Two of these operations were carried out simultaneously, each on a frontage of some 600 yards."

"After a prolonged bombardment the attacking units were able to reach their objectives. Few of the enemy were found in the first line trenches, and the attackers swept forward into the German second line."

"Our men remained for nearly an hour in the German positions and retired after inflicting much damage and capturing a considerable quantity of material."

"There has been a decided increase in sniping, owing to more favorable weather conditions. Our artillery was also very active."

"We kept up a vigorous bombardment on the rear areas opposite our Toul sector."

"Near the Swiss border, where another detachment of our men are in the trenches, hostile bombardments were frequent."

Baker's Arrival Noted.
"The arrival of our Secretary of War in France is noted."

"During the past week the Secretary has been in the trenches with the leading French authorities, and is about to undertake a careful inspection of our schools, training areas, rest camps, as well as the sectors of the front where our forces are in action."

"The western front, from the North Sea to the Alps, was the scene of much hard fighting."

"In Flanders the British were able completely to re-establish themselves in the vicinity of Passchendaele, Houthulst Wood and along Menin Road, which the enemy had captured during the preceding week."

"The British successfully raided the German lines from south of St. Quentin to Houthulst Wood."

French Regain Losses.
"Along the French front the Germans centered their assaults in Champagne. However, they were unable to make any headway. On the other hand, the French took some broad elements in which the enemy had gained a foothold west of Mont Carnillet."

"The Germans carried out a number of air raids against London and Paris. Allied aviators raided German industrial centers of the Rhine region."

"In the Italian theater the arrival of further hostile units and the concentration of material coming from Germany is noted in the area east and west of the Lake of Garda, which would point to hostile operations having Verona and Brescia as their objectives."

"In the eastern theater the enemy has stopped advancing in the north, while consolidating the territory gained in the south."

"The chief operation of the week culminated in the capture of Odessa. An Austrian column bearing down from the north formed a junction with a German column which had advanced rapidly across Bessarabia."

"The occupation of Odessa will no doubt be of economic importance to the enemy."

"In Finland fighting continues. German infantry has landed at Abo, and the arrival of important additional German forces on the Aland islands is reported."

"In Palestine the British continue to advance. They have now pushed their lines eighteen miles north of Jerusalem."

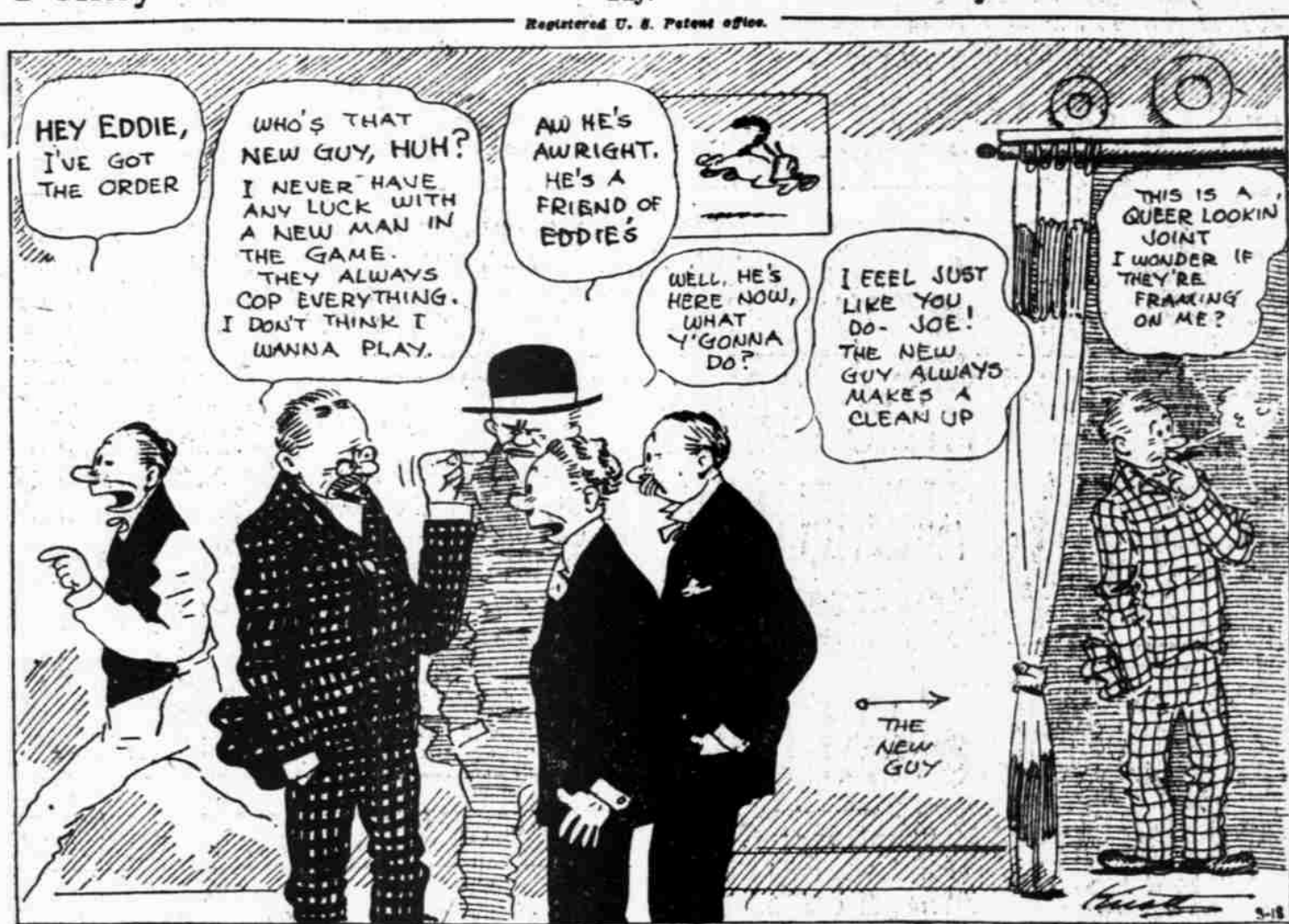
AUSTRO-GERMAN DRIVE ON ITALIAN FRONT NEARS

ROME, March 18.—The war office today is expecting reports from the Austro-Italian front to the effect that the long looked for Austro-German offensive has begun. Indications of the past two days have shown that such a move was contemplated, and dispatches today stated that lively gunfire and important troop movements had begun on all important sectors of the front. Effective counter shelling is being done by the Italian forces.

Penny Ante

Getting A Line On The New Guy.

By Jean Knott



SENATORS PROPOSE OVERTIME PAY IN CLERKS' BILL FIGHT

(Continued from First Page.)
posed the adoption of the Borland amendment, but said that if it were going to be adopted then the principal of the eight-hour law should be adhered to and payment for overtime granted.

"The eight-hour law as adopted by Congress is being repealed by the Borland amendment," said Senator Pittman. "The policy adopted by Congress and the States is being set aside. It not only bars the heads of these departments from granting a seven-hour day, but it allows the employees to be worked nine, ten, eleven, or more hours a day."

Pointing out that a large percentage of the Government employees are women, Senator Pittman said he did not see how Senators who voted for the eight-hour day for women in the District of Columbia could now argue and vote for a measure that would make women work 10, 11, 12 or more hours.

It is uncertain whether the Senate will make such progress on the agricultural bill as finally to dispose of the Borland amendment this afternoon.

SEVERELY WOUNDED.
Private Parter Jones.
Slightly Wounded.
First Lieut. Harold M. Hinch.
Sergeant William Blon Brown.
Corporal Roy DeBruyn.

Corporal Robert H. Griffith.
Corporal John Gurek.
Private Joe E. Hostman.
Private John W. Cooper.
Private Earl P. DeLong.
Private Richard E. Dowd.
Private John E. Edwards.
Private Robert C. Fennell.
Private Lloyd W. Frost.

Private William F. Getwood.
Private John J. Hall.
Private Edgar A. Hartman.
Private Oscar J. Hill.
Private Zolt Johnson.
Private James D. Jones.
Private Frank Lewis.
Private Carl C. Luedeking.
Private William H. Miller.
Private Clifford D. Petty.

Private Arthur B. Peikery.
Private Steve Radanovich.
Private Vernon L. Riddle.
Private George Ritzsch.
Private Owen R. Taylor.
Private Thomas J. Theria.
Private Charles A. Unger.
Private August Van Oyen.
Private William Wanner.
Private Frank J. White.

Private James J. White.
DIED OF DISEASE.
Corporal Robert Edward Bryne.
Private William P. DeCunha.
Private Herbert Van Alt.
Private James B. Stewart.
Private John M. Crouch.
Private Warren C. Hauser.
Private Frank J. Jones.
Private Steve Norman.
DIED OF ACCIDENT.
Private Oliver J. Bufford.

WOULD ALLOW WOMEN LAWYERS IN ENGLAND

LONDON, March 1.—(R. Mail).—A movement has been started in England to permit women to practice law in the courts. Lord Buckmaster is sponsor for a bill prepared for introduction in the House of Peers granting women the right to appear as counsel.

LIVELY DEBATE ON LOOP PETITION OF W. B. & A. LINE

The liveliest of all street railway hearings was that before the Utilities Commission today over the application of the Washington Railway and Electric Company for loop privileges for the Washington, Baltimore and Annapolis cars from New York avenue south on Twelfth street to H and west on H to Thirteenth, thence north again to New York avenue, circling the block in which is located the Masonic Temple.

Stiff opposition developed to permitting any street railway company to obtain the use of the streets of this city, especially in a section already congested and to become more congested in the next few years, and the battle became a warm one between the opposing phalanxes.

The conflicting interests lent color to the hearing. Citizens without property interests and animated only by the view that no street railway corporation has a right to be given terminal privileges in the streets of the city, and should be required to buy and pay for their own terminal; railroad representatives, acutely aware of their own interests; property owners who believed their property would be injured by such a terminal; property owners who thought they would be benefited by it; a committee from the board of trade, and the Safety First Association, were all on hand presenting a conflict of views.

Attitude of the Commission.
Questions by Commissioners Brownlow and Gardiner indicated their belief that the problem which confronts them now is that of relieving the congestion on New York avenue near Fifteenth street and giving the interurban people the right to bring passengers into the city. Expert Beeler had recommended that unless the terminal arrangements could be made east of Fourteenth street, New York avenue the Washington, Baltimore and Annapolis cars should be required to stop at Fifteenth and H streets north of.

The Washington Safety First Association does not object to letting the big cars come in but does object to the proposed increase in property value in a region already congested and sure to grow worse. This organization recommends a loop from Eleventh through I street to Twelfth and thence south to New York avenue.

Other suggestions are that if city terminals are to be accorded the Washington, Baltimore and Annapolis it should be further east on New York avenue and on private property. Between Fifth and Seventh streets on New York avenue and along New York avenue the Capital Traction and the Washington Railway and Electric.

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COAL OFFICIALS FOR NEARBY STATES NAMED
Assistant district representatives of the fuel administration for Maryland, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania were announced today as follows:

J. Howard Magee, of Cumberland, Md., for Maryland; D. M. Carl of Cumberland, Md., for Maryland and Pennsylvania; J. M. Cover, of Cumberland, for Somerset county, Pa., or on tributary to the Baltimore and Ohio and Western Maryland railroads, and in the Indian Valley districts in Fayette and Westmoreland counties, Pa.

CONGRESS' DELAYS RESULT IN UPSET OF WAR PROGRAM

Following the lead of Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, who volunteered two of the White House automobiles for the monster sightseeing tour of Washington by soldiers and sailors next Sunday, Countess Reading, wife of Lord Reading, head of the British commission in this country, today volunteered her six-passenger automobile for use of the soldiers.

Secretary of Commerce Redfield also became an "Autopatriot," volunteering his car for the parade.

The District Club of the American Automobile Association and the Automobile Trade Association of Washington are co-operating with the District War Camp Community Service in arranging for the parade.

Not all the fault is with Congress, however. Lack of co-operation from the executive departments often tends toward delay. In both Senate and House, the House Committee on Military Affairs, for instance, reported the so-called "quota" bill, enabling the War Department to draft as many men as it chose out of Class I, but the opposition which has been developed toward that measure has been due to some extent to a lack of frankness in disclosing what are the purposes intended by the bill. Just as Senators are suspecting that President Wilson wants to do more with the Overman bill than at first appears on the surface, just so are members of the House apprehensive that purposes other than those specified are intended by the so-called quota bill.

But whether these suspicions are in either case well founded is the fact is that just now responsibility for delay in our war program can be charged more to Congress than any other factor. In this situation, such things ought to be remembered later on, when Congressmen and Senators innocently exclaim that they granted the Executive all the power necessary to make war, but that the Executive, by abuse or misuse, was derelict in his duty.

ASKS NEW TUSCANIA PROBE.
A Congressional probe of the conduct of the crew of the Tuscania was asked in a resolution introduced in the House today by Congressman Stearns of Minnesota. The investigation was asked as a result of charges that the transport was abandoned by her crew without efforts to save the soldiers and as a result of the conduct of the crew 143 were drowned.

BOSTON TAILORS STRIKE.
BOSTON, March 18.—One thousand Boston tailors went on strike today. They are members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America. They demand a forty-eight hour week and 20 per cent wage increase. About 100 are women.

GOVERNMENT WILL MELT 200,000,000 SILVER DOLLARS

The United States Government is planning to go into the silver business and 200,000,000 silver dollars will probably be melted into bullion for sale by the Government abroad to stabilize the silver market and to settle United States trade balances.

Legislation is to be sought empowering the directing of the mint to do extensive trading in silver, buying and selling.

Negotiations looking toward the fixing of a price for silver have been going on for several months, and, though no decisive action has been taken, the silver price is expected to be a dollar an ounce. This will make every silver dollar worth a dollar in actual silver content.

There is little circulation of silver dollars in this country and 400,000,000 of them are held in the Treasury against the issue of \$1 silver certificates. Melting of these dollars will mean the withdrawal of just so many silver certificates, and the issue in their stead of Federal reserve notes.

Government trading in silver is expected to stabilize the price and hold it to the desired figure. It is expected that the Government will create a steady market for the silver producers of this country.

READINGS OFFER CAR FOR SOLDIERS' D. C. AUTO TOUR

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ATTACKS ARMY OFFICER; FINDS HE'S WRONG MAN
ATLANTA, Ga., March 18.—Charging that the army officer had taken his wife out and piled her with liquor, W. H. Baldwin jumped on an automobile being driven by a first lieutenant. Removing one hand from the steering wheel, the officer pained a vigorous right-hander on Baldwin's face. At the police station, after a conference, Baldwin said he had mistaken the man. Baldwin was an important witness in the Chandler blackmail case, testifying that "Handsome Bill" Cook had offered him money to secure a key to Mayor Chandler's office.

IRISH LOYAL TODAY TO UNCLE SAM AND ST. PATRICK ALIKE

While thousands of youths of Irish blood in khaki and blue celebrating St. Patrick's Day in a new way "row there," the folks at home observed the day in old-fashioned style.

As St. Patrick's Day, came on Pasquet Sunday yesterday, it could not be celebrated in the Catholic churches, and it was decided to hold the holiday festivities today.

There were no parades here in honor of the holiday, but in the churches, Irish Catholic dignitaries extolled the patriotism of the Irish in the present crisis.

A solemn high mass was celebrated at St. Patrick's church this morning at the request of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. The Most Rev. John Bonzano, apostolic delegate to the United States, assisted the Rev. John M. McNamara, who was celebrant at the mass. The Rev. Thomas A. Hill was deacon, the Rev. Robert Froehlich, subdeacon and the Rev. Martin Eagan, master of ceremonies. The sermon was preached by the Rev. T. G. Smith.

Tonight, Monsignor Thomas will speak at an entertainment under the auspices of the Washington Chapter of the A. O. H. at Carroll Hall. A military mass was celebrated yesterday at St. Aloysius church.

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